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Question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas)

Letter dated 31 January 2013 from the Permanent Representative of Argentina to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit herewith the "Special communiqué on the Malvinas Islands", adopted by the Heads of State and Government of Latin America and the Caribbean, gathered in Santiago, Chile, on 28 January 2013 within the framework of the Summit of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC) (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly under agenda item 45, concerning the question of the Malvinas Islands.

(*Signed*) María Cristina **Perceval**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the letter dated 31 January 2013 from the Permanent Representative of Argentina to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Special communiqué on the Malvinas Islands

1. The Heads of State and Government of Latin America and the Caribbean, gathered in Santiago, Chile, on 28 January 2013 within the framework of the Summit of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC), reiterate their strongest support for the legitimate rights of the Argentine Republic in the sovereignty dispute over the Malvinas Islands, South Georgia Islands and South Sandwich Islands and the surrounding maritime areas and the abiding interest of the countries of the region in the resumption of negotiations by the Governments of the Argentine Republic and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland in order to find as soon as possible a peaceful and definitive solution to the dispute in accordance with the relevant pronouncements by the United Nations and the Organization of American States, as expressed in previous declarations by the Rio Group and the Summit of Latin America and the Caribbean on Integration and Development, in particular that of the Latin American and Caribbean Unity Summit, held in the Mayan Riviera, Mexico, on 23 February 2010, which are part of the historical heritage of CELAC.

2. Furthermore, they reiterate the importance of observing the provisions of United Nations General Assembly resolution 31/49, which calls upon the two parties to refrain from taking decisions that would imply introducing unilateral modifications in the situation while the islands are going through the process recommended by the General Assembly.

3. They highlight the continuous constructive attitude and willingness of the Argentine Government to reach, through negotiations, a peaceful and definitive solution to this anachronistic colonial situation on American soil.

4. In this regard, the Heads of State and Government of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC) request the CELAC Troika to approach the United Nations Secretary-General, Mr. Ban Ki-moon, for an update on his progress in carrying out the mission of good offices entrusted to him by the General Assembly for the resumption of negotiations between Argentina and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland aimed at finding as soon as possible a peaceful solution to the sovereignty dispute relating to the question of the Malvinas Islands.

5. The Heads of State and Government of CELAC thank the Troika for its efforts.

Santiago, Chile, 28 January 2013